

Constitution and Bylaws of the National UNITY Council

Article I. Name and Mission

Section 1. The name of the organization shall be the National UNITY Council, hereafter referred to as the National Council.

Section 2. The mission of the National Council is to represent the UNITY Network so that common concerns are studied and addressed with a positive and unified voice. This will be accomplished through national meetings and projects that develop the leadership skills of Native youth by drawing upon their Native heritage and teachings. Further, the National Council will provide a means through which Native youth may learn how to effectively work together and address issues of concern in an environment that encourages them to interact in a signified manner that respects and honors all.

Article II. Objectives and Activities

Section 1. Objectives of the National Council shall be to provide affiliated youth councils and individuals of the UNITY Network a structure through which they can:

- A. Serve as a guiding body of the UNITY Network
- B. Provide a structure to participate in a deliberative process,
- C. Provide a forum to study and debate issues, establish priorities and set agendas,
- D. Learn parliamentary procedures,
- E. Promote the Network throughout Native America to increase its membership and provide a means, through which Native youth develop the skills needed to be more effective citizens and leaders,
- F. Serve as peer leaders and role models at the annuals National UNITY Conference,
- G. Serve as peer mediators, and
- H. Represent Native youths' voice regarding their issues of concern to all who may have an interest or a role to play in addressing such matters.

Section 2. Activities of the National Council

- A. To carry out its stated objectives, the National Council shall engage in only those activities that are consistent with the Constitution, Bylaws, philosophy and mission and the parent organization: United National Indian Tribal Youth, Inc.

- B. To ensure its effective operation the National UNITY Council may from time-to-time adopt policies and procedures as required to implement the provisions of this Constitution and Bylaws.
- C. The National Council shall not:
 - 1. Take a position on issues that are best addressed by a tribe, village, or community,
 - 2. Become involved in partisan politics on any level,
 - 3. Take a position on specific legislation at any level of government, or
 - 4. Become involved in matters of personally conflict,
 - 5. Take any action that financially or otherwise obligates the parent organization without prior authorization by either the UNITY Council of Trustees or by someone designated to act in their behalf.

Article III: National UNITY Council Membership

Section 1. National UNITY Council membership shall be made up of representatives duly elected by:

- A. National UNITY network youth council members in good standing. Each member of a youth council may elect:
 - 1. Two (2) representatives, one male and one female to represent them on the National UNITY Council
 - 2. An alternate for each youth council's male and female representative. Alternates will assume the representative position if an elected representative vacates the position or is temporarily unable to serve due to illness, hardship, or other purpose that is approved by the affiliated youth council.
 - 3. Individual members of the UNITY Network will attend their respective area caucus.

Section 2. A UNITY Network youth council in good standing shall be a youth council that:

- A. Is up to date on the annual UNITY Network affiliation fee,
- B. Has all required documentation on file in the UNITY office, and
- C. Has submitted the annual UNITY affiliate oral or written report.

Section 3. A UNITY Network affiliated individual member in good standing shall be an individual who is in compliance with the affiliation requirement as established by UNITY, Inc., and in effect during registration for the annual National UNITY Conference.

Section 4. Representatives on the National UNITY Council must:

- A. Be an American Indian, Alaska Native or Native Hawaiian,
- B. Be at least 15 years of age at the start of his or her term, and will not have reached the age of 25 by the end of his or her term.

Section 5. Only those who demonstrate they meet the relevant criteria set forth in this article shall have representative-voting privileges on the National UNITY Council.

Article IV. National UNITY Council Officers, Terms, Vacancies, Restrictions, and Removal

Section 1. National UNITY Council officers shall be ten elected Area Representatives and two Co-Presidents (one male and one female) in accordance with the provisions set forth in Article IV, Section 7. Upon the completion of the election, the twelve officers (ten Area Representatives and the two Co-Presidents) shall meet as the Executive Committee and elect from among its members:

- A. A Vice President, and
- B. A Secretary

Section 2. The National UNITY Council Executive Committee (NUCEC) shall be comprised of the Co-Presidents, ten Area Representatives, and two Ex-Officio members: the UNITY Council Board of Trustees Chair and the UNITY Inc. Executive Director.

Section 3. Candidacy for the office of Co-Presidents shall only be open to those who are an American Indian, Native Hawaiian or Alaska Native, at least 15 years of age at the start of his or her term, and who shall not have reached the age of 25 by the end of his or her term. In addition, a candidate to be eligible must:

- A. Have been a National UNITY Council representative, and
- B. Have been a member of the National UNITY Council Executive Committee for at least one year.

Section 4. The term of office for the Executive Committee members shall be from the close of the National UNITY Conference at which they were elected through to the closing of the following year's conference.

Section 5. Executive Committee members shall serve no more than two consecutive terms in a particular office.

Section 6. Executive Committee Vacancies

- A. In the event of a Co-President is unable to fulfill their term, the Vice President will assume the roles and responsibilities of Co-President, if the Vice President in the same gender, or move in order of chain of succession.
- B. In the event that the office of an Area Representative is vacated, the Alternate from the area that elected the Area Representative whose office is vacated shall be promoted to the Executive Committee and complete the unexpired term. The Co-Presidents will reappoint the office of Vice President or Secretary if necessary.
- C. In the event that an Alternate is unavailable to fill a vacate Area Representative position, the vacant position will be announced to the National UNITY Council (NUC) Youth Councils and individual members. The remainder of the term shall be filled by a National UNITY Council (NUC) Representative residing with the vacated region. Eligibility to run for the NUC Representative are as follows:
 - 1. NUC Representative must submit a declaration of candidacy within the deadline allocated,
 - 2. An alternate for each youth council's male and female representative. Alternates will assume the representative position if an elected representative vacates the position or is temporarily unable to serve due to illness, hardship, or other purpose that is approved by the affiliated youth council.
 - 3. Nominations will be announced to the National UNITY COUNCIL (NUC) Youth Councils and individual members in good standings residing with the region of the vacated position,
 - 4. The NUC Executive Committee will appoint a new Area Representative by majority vote in consideration of the recommendations submitted once the recommendation window closes,
 - 5. If the position becomes vacant within 30 days prior to the National Conference, the position will remain vacant until the new Executive Committee is selected.

Section 7. National UNITY Council Executive Committee Election Process

- A. During the National UNITY Conference, a voting member of the National UNITY Council shall elect to the Executive Committee:
 - 1. Two Co-Presidents at-large, and
 - 2. Ten Area Representatives to represent one of each respective ten geographically defined areas of the UNITY Network.

- B. A Declaration of Candidacy (a part of Filing Forms) shall be submitted by the deadline to the UNITY office. During the National UNITY Conference, a National Council Business meeting will be held for the purpose of electing the Area Representatives and both Co-Presidents.
- C. The deadline for receiving the filing forms shall be 5:00 P.M (Central Time) at least 30 days prior to the date of the opening session of the annual National UNITY Conference. The established deadline date, time, and address to be sent to shall be posted on the UNITY website and noted on the official Filing Form.
- D. In the event that official filing form is not made available at a reasonable time for submission, 30 days prior to the National UNITY Conference, the decisions will be left to the UNITY staff.
- E. The office of Co-Presidents shall only be open to the National Council Representatives who have served a minimum of one year as an Area Representative or Co-President.
- F. Each of the ten Area Caucuses shall elect one eligible member from among those in attendance to serve as an officer on the Executive Committee. Only those who are serving as Youth Council Representatives on the National Council at the time of elections are eligible to run for an Area Representative office from one of the ten geographically defined areas, provided they have met all eligibility requirements. A National UNITY Council Representative, who seek the office of Area Representative, must stand for election within the Area Caucus that includes his or her state of residence. The ten geographical areas and the states included in each are defined as follows:
 - 1. Great Plains- Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota
 - 2. Midwest- Illinois, Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Wisconsin
 - 3. Northeast- Connecticut, Delaware, Indiana, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Vermont
 - 4. Northwest- Idaho, Oregon, Washington, Alaska
 - 5. Pacific- California, Hawaii
 - 6. Rocky Mountains-Montana, Wyoming
 - 7. Southeast- Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia, West Virginia
 - 8. Southern Plains- Kansas, Oklahoma, Texas
 - 9. Southwest- Colorado, New Mexico
 - 10. Western- Arizona, Nevada, Utah

- G. Those intending to run for an Area Representative Office must formally file for office.
- H. Filing forms may be obtained by submitting a request to the Executive Committee Secretary, by downloading the form from the UNITY website, or by sending a request to the UNITY office.
- I. The annual filing period will commence at the time that the election notice is posted on the UNITY website.
- J. In the case of an Individual Member not having an adviser, they must provide a reference of at least 25 years of age and their signature.
- K. Prior to the business meeting, all National Council Representatives shall make a verbal Declaration of Candidacy to their respective Area Caucus'. Within these meetings will be at least one NUEC member present. It is at the National UNITY Council Business meeting where elections will be held.
 - 1. All National Council Representatives attending the NUC Business meeting shall be seated according to Area Caucus within the pace given for the meeting.
 - 2. Ballots will be made for each specific region that includes the Co-Presidents.
- L. National Council representatives who attend an Area Caucus meeting may vote in its elections for Area Representatives and Alternatives provided that they are between 15 and 25 years of age and a member in good standing of a youth council that operates within one of the Area Caucus.
- M. A National Council representative shall vote only in the Area Caucus that represents the state in which his or her youth council operates.
- N. If two candidates receive the same amount of votes, a runoff election shall be held between the top two candidates receiving the most votes in its area caucus within the business meeting.
- O. In the event that the filing requirements cannot reasonably be met due to actions of the National Council, the filing requirements provided for within this section may be waived by a 2/3 majority of the National UNITY Council member's casting votes in a National UNITY Council Business Meeting held during the annual National UNITY Conference.

Section 8. Executive Committee Duties

- A. The National UNITY Council Executive Committee shall carry out the National UNITY Council's decisions, set the time and place of meetings, plan such meetings, draft meeting agendas, coordinate meetings, and develop recommendations regarding policies and yearly action plans for the Council's consideration. Additionally, the

Executive Committee shall perform other duties as are specified by this constitution and bylaws.

- B. To carry out its duties, the Executive Committee shall have the authority to act on behalf of the National UNITY Council between business meetings. However, the Executive Committee shall not modify or take actions that go counter to the National UNITY Council's decisions.
- C. The Executive Committee derives its authority from the National UNITY Council and shall provide a minimum of four written reports on its activities to the Council each year. One report will be presented at the annual National UNITY Conference and another at the National UNITY Council Mid-year Meeting. The other two will be delivered in accordance with a schedule decided upon and announced by the Council during its annual business meeting at the National UNITY Conference.
- D. The Co-Presidents shall preside at all National UNITY Council and Executive Committee meetings, perform other duties normally associated with the office, and represent National UNITY Council members by serving on the United National Indian Tribal Youth, Inc. Council of Trustees. The Co-Presidents shall collect individual reports from each of the Area Representatives in addition to drafting an annual National UNITY Council Executive Committee report.
- E. The Vice President shall chair National UNITY Council meetings in the absence of both Co- Presidents and perform other duties associated with the office. Further, the Vice President shall retain the responsibility to serve as the Area Representative for the youth councils within the respective geographical area he or she was elected to represent.
- F. The Secretary shall record then transmit a copy of all meeting minutes to the UNITY office, ensure the maintenance of National UNITY Council records, coordinate the flow of information between the National UNITY Council the Executive Committee, and the UNITY staff. Additionally, the Secretary is to maintain status of affiliated youth council's good standing. As a final act of his or her tenure in office, the outgoing Secretary shall transfer all necessary information and data - to the incoming Secretary - for the effective functioning of the Executive Committee to continue. Further, the Secretary shall retain the responsibility to serve as the Area Representative for the youth councils within the respective geographical area he or she was elected to represent.
- G. The Area Representatives shall participate in deliberations and vote on matters brought before the Executive Committee. Area Representatives may be appointed by the Co- Presidents to serve as chairs or as members of various National UNITY Council committees. Additionally, Area Representatives shall serve as the liaison and primary point of contact between the Executive Committee and the youth councils within the respective geographical areas they were elected to represent.

Section 9. Removal of National UNITY Executive Committee Members

- A. National UNITY Executive Committee member will be removed from office if committing the following:
1. Violating the Code of Honor
 2. Violating the UNITY Creed
 3. Missing two unexcused consecutive conference calls
- B. In the event of resignation, the executive committee member must submit a resignation letter to the NUC co-presidents and executive committee liaison.

Article V. Meetings

Section 1. At minimum the National UNITY Council (NUC) shall meet at the annual National UNITY Conference. In the event a Conference is not held in a given year, the meeting requirement of this provision shall be met by conducting the NUC's business during its business meeting held during the UNITY Midyear Meeting, or by using other means outlined in Section 2 of this Article.

Section 2. The National Council may conduct its business by meeting in conjunction with the UNITY Midyear Meeting and at other times as needed. When necessary, business may be conducted or transacted via teleconferences, Interactive Internet Based Conferences, the U.S. Mail, e-mail or by the use of any other widely available and appropriate means of communication.

Section 3. A quorum for the National UNITY Council meetings shall be a total of 25 physically in attendance, comprised of the National UNITY Council Representatives and the Executive Committee.

Article VI. Standing Committees

Section 1. There will be standing committees dealing with operations during the National UNITY Conference and Standing Committees dealing with programs of the National UNITY Council as follows: (All representatives will have a choice on which committees he or she will serve. However, some committees will require appointments, as designated by the Executive Committee.)

A. Operations Committees

1. Membership and Credentials Committee

This committee will consist of 9-15 members from the National UNITY Council and one ex-officio member appointed by UNITY's Council of Trustees. The

purpose of the committee is to detain delegates with good standing to full assemblies of the National UNITY Council which takes place at least once a year during the annual National UNITY Conference and at a Mid-Year meeting. Duties include:

- a) Determine whether an organization represented by delegate is in "good standing."
- b) Determine if two delegates are rightfully authorized to serve as official voting delegates.
- c) To ensure that if delegates are not present, a member of the respective UNITY Network youth council is represented by a duly authorized alternate(s).
- d) Maintaining a system to properly register delegates to ensure that only duly authorized persons participate in the voting process.
- e) Maintaining a record of committee assignments and officers.
- f) To ensure that all candidates running for Executive Committee offices are in good standing.

2. Resolutions Committee

This committee is active during the formal assemblies of the National UNITY Council. It shall consist of 7 -11 members. The purpose of this committee is to assist various committees and individuals with drafting resolutions, to provide information about constitution, bylaws, standing rules after resolutions are passed to ensure they are codified. The secretary of the Executive Committee shall chair this committee. One member of the Board of Trustees shall be an ex-officio member along with one of the National UNITY Council Executive Committees Co-Presidents.

3. Communications Committee

The purpose of this committee is to accurately and professionally assist the National Council with internal and external communications. This includes all members of the United National Indian Tribal Youth organization with a variety of external public; such as local Indian communities, regional and national agency organizations. This committee will consist of 11-15 members. Ex-officio members include the Vice President of the National UNITY Executive Committee and a UNITY staff person in charge of communications.

4. Program Committee

The purpose of this committee is to set the direction for the annual National UNITY Conference and any other conventions of the National UNITY Council. This committee will consist of 15 -21 members. Ex-officio members include Co-

Presidents of National UNITY Council Executive Committee, Executive Director of UNITY and one other appointee from the Council of Trustees or, staff of UNITY as designated by UNITY's Executive Director. The committee may form subcommittees in performing its work as follows:

- a) Select theme (and possible slogan).
- b) Identify three sites in order of preference.
- c) Set direction and priorities for youth training, social, cultural, sports and fitness events.
- d) Serve as a liaison with the Communications Committee.

5. Committee on Roles and Responsibilities of the National UNITY Council Representatives at National UNITY Meetings

This committee will consist of 10-15 members. The purpose of this committee is to assist in the preparation and daily operations of the National UNITY Conference. Members will also serve as models who exemplify the National UNITY Code of Honor throughout the conference. Duties include:

1. Serve as a Peer leadership team.
2. Enforce Code of Honor.
3. Enforce curfew at the National Conference.
4. Work with Peer Mediation Committee for members disobeying Code of Honor.
5. Help record attendance of representatives at all business meetings at the National Conference.
6. Meet and Greet Conference participants as they arrive.
7. Be familiar where the Conference events and registration are being held.
8. Help facilitate the Fun and Games activity (in an interactive/supportive role).
9. Be familiar with the agenda and activities to serve as an informational resource. (e.g. where meetings will be held, where specific groups are to meet, where workshop rooms are located, etc.)
10. Seek out and mobilize volunteer teams for conference tasks.
11. Familiarize themselves with the local attractions and activities and the transportation option information.

12. Direct participants to the specific workshops and general sessions in a helpful manner.
13. Serve as clan or talking circle leaders.
14. Serve as general session and workshop facilitators (make sure people have bio's and workshop rooms have what is needed).
15. Coordinate constantly with the conference facilitator team.
16. Attend all National Council meetings on time.
17. Attend all conference events on time.

6. Credentials Committee-

This committee will consist of 10-15 members. The purpose of this committee is to notify all youth councils entitled to representation on the National UNITY Council. Duties include:

1. Disseminating information in accordance with the bylaws, as to the authorized number of representatives and alternates, eligibility requirements and the time and manner of their election
2. Formulating credentials forms with instructions and deadline for submitting names of representatives and alternates designated by the respective youth council.
3. Review all forms returned forms to verify the eligibility of each representative listed; notification to the proper youth council when an elected delegate or alternate is determined ineligible (through non-payment of dues or violation of Code of Honor)
4. Compilation of the list of members entitled to register (including ex-officio representatives and honored guests).
5. Verifying eligibility of representatives running for Executive Committee.
6. Arranging for registration at the annual conference site, beginning one to two days before the annual conference.
 - a) Submission by the member intending to register of evidence that he or she is entitled to do so.
 - b) Verification by the committee that the member's credentials are correct
 - c) Recording of the member as officially registered upon payment of registration fee

- d) Issuing of the particular badge to which the member is entitled, the official program and any additional information, such as time and place of individual caucuses and/or committee meetings
- e) Preparation of the committee's first report to the National Council which can include number of current registrations, as well as enable the chairperson of the Credentials Committee to present this initial report as the first item of official business of the convention.
- f) Continuation of the committee until the convention ends (to record changes in the registration rolls as needed as it pertains to delegates.
- g) Submission of a supplementary credentials report at the beginning of the first business meeting of each day

7. Election Procedure Committee-

This committee will consist of 1-5 members. The purpose of this committee will be to oversee the election process of the Executive Committee offices.

a) Duties include:

1. Ensuring that all representatives are aware of and understand the process of filing for office and the election process.
2. Formulating a nomination form.
3. Working with the Credentials Committee in verifying the requirements of all candidates.
4. Creating a final ballot to be given to appropriate voting members of the National Council during the Election Meeting.
5. Securing the assistance of 5 advisors for tabulating ballots.

b) Election Process

1. The filing period for candidates wishing to run for the Executive Committee offices will open at the end of the preceding National UNITY Conference and will close 30 days prior to the next National UNITY Conference.
2. Nomination forms will be available either from the Secretary of the Executive Committee or the UNITY office.
3. Nominations must be postmarked by midnight of the deadline date. No nominations will be accepted after the deadline.
4. Completed nomination forms must be postmarked to the UNITY office 30 days prior to the National UNITY conference.

5. Nominees must be self-nominated.
6. Nominees may file for only one office.
7. Nomination forms must be signed by his or her respective advisor.(Except for Individual affiliated representatives.)
8. A brief resume must accompany each nomination form detailing his other activities in such areas as education, tribal government, UNITY youth council projects, as well as why he or she desires to be on the Executive Committee.
9. A final ballot will be given to all appropriate voting members of the National Council during the election meeting.
- 10.If a candidate does not receive the majority of votes, a runoff election will be held between the top two candidates receiving the most votes.
- 11.For the Members-at-Large offices, voting members will vote only for one female and one male candidate. The top three female and male candidates receiving the most votes will be elected to those offices

B. Program Committees

There will be a standing committee for each of the major program areas promoted by UNITY, Inc. Chairs of each committee will be appointed by the Co-Presidents of the National Council. It is anticipated that their selection will be based on their leadership abilities, interests, and experience in the particular fieldwork. The National Council Co-Presidents and the UNITY Executive Director are ex-officio members of each committee. In addition, one staff person, or other adult liaison, will be appointed by the UNITY Executive Director. Generally, each of the committees has the following responsibilities:

- 1) To study the field (keep abreast by communicating with local youth councils and at-Large members working in the area, reading articles and other literature about the topic, learning about other organizations' efforts in the same or similar field).
- 2) Evaluate alternatives.
- 3) Write reports to the general assembly and make recommendations in the form of draft resolutions about action(s) that need to be taken.
- 4) Serve as experts and spokespersons for the National Council on the topic during the National UNITY Conference and on a limited basis to the general public.

1. Code of Honor Committee-

This committee shall consist of 5 to 10 members. The primary duties of the committee will be to study and review the Code of Honor to ensure that it is applicable to all members of the National Council and to make revisions as needed.

- a. The Code of Honor Committee recommends the following as the National UNITY Council's Code of Honor Contract to be signed by each National UNITY Council representative at the beginning of his or her respective term:

As a youth council representative serving on the National UNITY Council, I agree to uphold the standards set forth within the following Code of Honor:

- Maintain and promote a healthy mind, body, and lifestyle.
- Observe high standards of taste and decency. This includes refraining from disorderly, lewd, indecent or obscene conduct or expression.
- Refrain from drug and alcohol abuse. This includes refraining from the possession, use or distribution of any illicit drug (as defined by applicable law) and the abuse of alcohol.
- Be honest.
- Respect all personal rights. This includes not physically or verbally abusing any person and not engaging in conduct that threatens or endangers the health or safety of others and their property. Not obstructing or disrupting others in the performance of official duties by officers, functions or other authorized activities of the National UNITY Council. Refraining from theft, concealment of weapons, damage or misuse of the property of others.
- Honor the law of the land.
- Help other National Council Representatives fulfill their responsibilities under this code.

b. Compliance

I will conduct myself in a positive manner and in the best interest of UNITY at all times. Failure to comply in accordance with the Roles and Responsibilities of National UNITY Council Representatives shall result in disciplinary action(s) as warranted from the Peer Mediation Committee.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

2. Peer Mediation Committee-

This committee will consist of 10 to 15 members. The primary duties of the committee will be to facilitate meetings and mediate decisions between members of the committee and National Council representatives who have not upheld the Code of Honor. The process for this procedure will be determined by inaugural members.

3. Committee of UNITY Youth Council Advisors-

This committee shall consist of 10 advisors of UNITY Network affiliated youth councils in good standing. This committee will offer suggestions, trainings and other ideas on fulfilling the role of advisor of a UNITY Network affiliated youth council. The duties and recommendations of a youth council advisor will include:

- Understanding the different resources of their respective community.
- Developing a positive relationship with their respective tribal council.
- Visibly demonstrating positive adult leadership.
- Being a positive role model for their community and youth council.
- Creating leadership opportunities and open doors for their youth council members.
- Developing open lines of communication with both young people / communities / organizations.
- Developing and enhancing their own communication skills.
- Developing a crisis/ help network of professionals for assistance in:
 - a) Guidance and
 - b) Conflict resolution
- Promoting leadership centered activities.
- Developing a network of college and high school educational opportunities.
- Seeking to understand all youth council members.
- Developing an understanding of trust and friendship between advisors and youth.
- Supervising / Monitoring all youth council sponsored activities.
- Being accountable for your youth council members.
- Developing youth council presentations / workshops to promote their youth council.
- Making sure all participating youth council members attend all activities and trainings at the National Conference
- Monitoring behavior of all participating youth council members attending the National UNITY Conference

C. Action Committees

The following committees shall be called "action committees", whose purpose shall be to study, develop and initiate appropriate actions or resolutions on issues concerning Native America. The action committees shall be the:

1. Committee of Native American Culture and Heritage
2. Committee on the Environment
3. Committee on Healthy Lifestyles
4. Committee on Community Service
5. Committee on Higher Education
6. Committee on New and Special Initiatives

D. Special Appointments:

These special appointments shall be made by the Co-Presidents of the Executive Committee. These appointees shall assist in the flow of activities during National UNITY Council meetings:

- 2 Member Parliamentarians (who also serve as co-chairs of resolutions committee)
- 2 Sergeant at Arms. (Help make sure that the room is set up, assists the President with operational situations such as room set up, keeps order on the floor)
- 2 Doorkeepers - make sure people entering the assembly are official delegates or ex-officio staff or otherwise wear appropriate "visitor" tags.

Article VII. Parliamentary Authority

Rules contained in the current edition of Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised shall govern the National UNITY Council in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these bylaws and any special rules of order the National UNITY Council may adopt.

Article VIII. Notice

The UNITY, Inc. Website shall be the official means employed for communicating notices that are required by the provisions of this Constitution and Bylaws.

Article IX. Amendments

Section 1. The National UNITY Council's Constitution and Bylaws may be amended at the

annual National UNITY Council Meeting and/or National UNITY Council Mid-Year Meeting, provided that proposed amendments:

- A. Have been submitted in writing to the Executive Committee at least 30 days before the annual National UNITY Council Meeting or National Mid-Year Meeting
- B. Are sponsored by at least six National UNITY Council Representatives
- C. Are approved by at least a 2/3 majority of the representatives casting votes.

Section 2. The amended National UNITY Council Constitution and Bylaws go into effect immediately upon adoption.